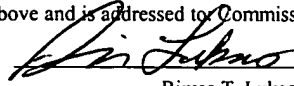


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Rimas T. Lukas

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Thomas M. BAER et al.

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Filing Date: Herewith

For: LASER CAPTURE
MICRODISSECTION VACUUM HOLD-
DOWN

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Prior to examination on the merits and calculation of the filing fee, applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application.